

Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks'

Centennial Events



National Park Service™
C E N T E N N I A L

MONTHLY EVENTS

JANUARY

January 18, 2016

Martin Luther King Day of Service

Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks

This event commemorated Dr. King's legacy with a day of service and education.

January - Summer 2016 (end date to be determined)

Exhibit—Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks: Celebrating the Centennial Anniversary of the National Park Service

Mountain Light Gallery, Bishop, CA

This exhibit, which continues through Summer 2016, captures the beauty of Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks through the lenses of six photographers.

Superintendent Woody Smeck and a Sequoia Parks Conservancy representative will attend the Artists' Reception on March 12.

FEBRUARY

February

African American History Month

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Sequoia-and-Kings-Canyon-National-Parks/145808212106571>

Twitter: @SequoiaKingsNPS

This social media campaign (on Tuesdays and Thursdays in February) highlights the legacy of the Buffalo Soldiers at Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks and African American history in the National Park Service. The goal is to cross-post with at least one other national park during the month.

February 14-27, 2016

Facebook Photo Contest

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Sequoia-and-Kings-Canyon-National-Parks/145808212106571>

Love Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks? The public is invited to show their love of the parks by entering our Facebook Photo Contest. For more info, visit <http://go.usa.gov/cVDRx>.

February 25-26, 2016

African American History Month

Southern California Edison, Energy Education Center, Tulare, CA

Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks has been asked to participate in the 6th annual Black History Month event by Southern California Edison. Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks will staff a booth at the event.

MARCH

March 5, 2016 (from 9 a.m.-4 p.m.)

BioBlitz - Newts

Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks

This is the first of three BioBlitzes at Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks in 2016. The Newt Blitz is an opportunity for people to engage in citizen science—to team up with scientists to find and identify newts at Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks. If newts are scarce on event day, other fauna will be searched for by the groups.

March 12, 2016

Artists' Reception for Exhibit: Celebrating the Centennial of the National Park Service

Mountain Light Gallery, Bishop, CA

An Artists' Reception for the Mountain Light Gallery exhibit will be held on Saturday, March 12. Superintendent Woody Smeck and a representative of the Sequoia Parks Conservancy will attend the reception.

March 12, 2016

Women of Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks

Off-site Location TBD

The goal is to invite high school age girls from the Boys and Girls Clubs of America and other groups to learn about National Park Service careers and the history of women in the National Park Service through presentations by park staff. In addition, a first-person living history character from Sequoia Parks Conservancy will make an appearance. Other agencies will be invited.

APRIL

April 2-3, 2016

Big Hat Days

Clovis, CA – Old Town Clovis

The National Park Service, Sequoia Parks Conservancy, and Delaware North are planning to co-staff a booth about the parks at this event.

April 16-24, 2016

National Park Week (includes Junior Ranger Day on April 23, 2016)

Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks

Visitors will be able to attend various ranger-led programs (specific programs TBD) at Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks during National Park Week. As in previous years, the largest event will likely be the Junior Ranger Day event in the Foothills (behind the visitor center, where division representatives interact with the public at stations).

MAY

May 20-21, 2016 (from 9 a.m.-4 p.m.)

Centennial BioBlitz - Terrestrial invertebrates, aquatic invertebrates, plants, bats, owls, etc.

Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks

This BioBlitz is an opportunity for people to engage in citizen science—to team up with scientists to find and identify terrestrial invertebrates, aquatic invertebrates, plants, bats, owls, etc., at Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks. The parks will host 200 students from two schools on Friday, May 20. A public BioBlitz event will be held on Saturday, May 21. This BioBlitz will be conducted as part of the national Centennial BioBlitz effort in coordination with over 100 other national parks. This is the second of three BioBlitz events at Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks in 2016.

May 27-29, 2016

Mule Days

Bishop, CA – Tri-county Fairgrounds

As in previous years, Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks is planning to staff a booth at Mule Days to highlight the Centennial. In the past, free housing and booth space have been provided by the U.S. Forest Service. The Sequoia Parks Conservancy is interested in co-staffing a booth with us. In addition, other California parks will be invited to co-staff the booth with us.

JUNE

June 4, 2016

National Trails Day

Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks

Trails, Resources Management, and Volunteer Management will oversee 20 students in the rerouting and restoration of a 100-foot section of the Hazelwood Nature Trail in Giant Forest. *(Trail work is for a specified group—not a public event.)* In addition, the best trails for families to hike will be highlighted for the public on this day.

June 18, 2016

The Legacy of the Buffalo Soldiers

The public will be invited to celebrate the legacy of the Buffalo Soldiers with a re-enactment of the soldiers' encampment, interpretive programs, exhibits, etc. Speakers will be invited.

JULY

July (or August)—Date TBD

Sing Across America

Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks

Sing Across America is an event in which kids will sing an original composition inspired by the Centennial that will be provided to national parks. At least 10 different national parks are involved in this event. *The only requirement is that a video of the group singing the composition must be uploaded to the Sing Across America website by August 25.*

AUGUST

August (or July)—Date TBD

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August 5-7, 2016

Dark Sky Festival

Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks, Lake Kaweah, and in Three Rivers, CA
The Sequoia Parks Conservancy, in cooperation with the National Park Service and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, will hold the annual Dark Sky Festival at Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks and in the local area.

August 25, 2016

Founders Day Celebration

Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks

-- **Ranger-led Programs** – The public is welcome to learn more about the parks at ranger-led programs during this day.

--**“Buddy Park” Cave Tours** – The Sequoia Parks Conservancy will be holding special “Buddy Park” Cave Tours at Crystal Cave, in cooperation with several other National Park Service sites, to honor the Centennial.

--**Staff Appreciation Day** – For parks’ staff, there will be a special event celebrating the Centennial Anniversary of the National Park Service. Details TBD.

August 26-28, 2016

ERSA of Red Trees (Pageant)

The Sequoia Parks Conservancy plans to sponsor this pageant under the Big Trees in honor of the Centennial.

SEPTEMBER

September 17, 2016

Big Trees & Food Fest

Visalia OR Fresno

The Sequoia Parks Conservancy has asked us to consider participating in this festival—a fundraiser for Sequoia Parks Conservancy—with a separate area with interactive activities tied to Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks and the Centennial. This could include demonstrations of tips related to hiking/camping and/or presentations about animals, etc., by park staff. Other organizations may participate in the event.

OCTOBER

October (Date TBD)

Cultural Heritage Event (Title TBD)

This event would honor Native American History Month (--a month early during better weather) and the 50th Anniversary of the National Historic Preservation Act. The event will involve demonstrations of native languages, lifestyle, and arts.

NOVEMBER

November (or December)—Date TBD?

Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks' Science Symposium

Location to be determined

The two-day Science Symposium will celebrate and share selected ongoing research, while building support for fulfilling Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks' Research Stewardship Strategy. The audience would be a mixture of professional scientists, college graduates, and undergraduate students.

DECEMBER

December (or November)—Date TBD?

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December 13, 2016 (from 2:30-3:30 p.m.)

Trek to the Nation's Christmas Tree

Kings Canyon National Park

This annual event at the General Grant Tree, the Nation's Christmas Tree, includes speakers, music, a non-denominational Christmas message, and a tribute to those who fought and died for our freedom.

December 17th, 2016 (from 7 a.m.-5 p.m., with 6-7 a.m. optional owl count)

Bird Blitz

Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks

This is the third and final BioBlitz in 2016. This event is part of the annual Christmas Bird Count coordinated by the Sequoia Parks Conservancy. The Sequoia Parks Conservancy will add additional components this year to the event, including promoting involvement of children from Three Rivers Unified School District.

OTHER POTENTIAL PARTNERSHIPS

Staff from Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks is discussing additional partnership ideas with other groups at this time. Stay tuned for more updates in the future.